



Office for Standards
in Education

DAY CARE INSPECTION REPORT

URN 139373

INSPECTION DETAILS

Inspection Date 12/09/2003
Inspector Name Mary Daniel

SETTING DETAILS

Day Care Type Full Day Care, Out of School Day Care
Setting Name Wonderland Nursery
Setting Address The Old School
Gundry Lane
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3RL

REGISTERED PROVIDER DETAILS

Name Mrs Jill McClimonds

ABOUT THE INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection is to assure government, parents and the public of the quality and standard of day care. When making judgements, inspectors have regard to how well the provider meets the National Standards for under Eights Day Care and Childminding. A list of these is attached. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement.

This inspection report must be made available to all parents.

Information about the setting

Wonderland Day Nursery operates from a converted school building and is situated near the centre of the town of Bridport, near to shops, a library and a playpark. The privately owned nursery is registered for 43 children under eight years, and is open on Monday to Fridays from 08:00 - 17:30 , and on a Saturday from 09:00 - 17:30.

Children have use of a nursery room for those aged under three years, a pre-school room for those aged three to five years, each with their own kitchen and toilet areas, and an after school room for those aged five to eight years. A separate room is available for younger children to sleep. There are two enclosed outdoor areas available.

There are ten staff, the majority of whom have a Nursery Nursing qualification or equivalent, and have trained in first aid. The nursery receive government funding for children aged three to five years, and cater for those with special needs. The nursery work together with the Dorset Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

How good is the Day Care?

Wonderland Day Nursery is providing satisfactory care for children. Staff use clear procedures, which help in maintaining consistent nursery routines. There is a good and varied range of toys and resources which are well organised, although easier accessibility, for the children in the nursery room, would allow more freedom of choice in play. The provision of toys and resources does not reflect an overall balance, to include positive images of diversity. In the pre-school room, organisation is more effective, allowing children access to a variety of play resources, and space is used well to provide different areas of play.

The play rooms are bright and cheerful with attractive wall displays. Overall, there is sufficient play space, but this is limited in the babies area due to storage of toys and equipment. Staff have a calm, caring approach, but are not always deployed well to encourage the younger children's developmental progress. Staff use clear safety and hygiene procedures, which are generally suitable, although small office items are not stored safely and there is poor visibility if accessing the back fire exit.

The pre-school children are offered a range of interesting activities to support their overall development, including awareness of numbers and language recognition and they mix well with their peers.

The play activities offered in the nursery room are suitable, but the grouping of younger children can limit variety of experiences offered, and there is little provision for toddlers to have a rest, or participate in regular outdoor activities or walks.

Relationships with parents are formed well, and parents of younger children are kept informed of their child's care, food and sleep patterns, through use of a daily written record. Regular newsletters are also sent keeping parents informed of events and changes within the nursery. Documentation and registration records are in good order, and confidentiality is regarded in storage arrangements.

What has improved since the last inspection?

At the last inspection the group were asked to implement, develop and review required records and policies, while ensuring safe storage of documentation with regard to confidentiality in use, address safety and hygiene issues, maintain correct staff ratios, and ensure the named members of staff responsible for behaviour management and child protection received relevant training.

Most of these actions have been met overall, however there are some issues outstanding. The majority of required records and procedures have been implemented and policies reviewed, although there is still no written procedure for employment of staff or for taking children on outings. Staff have applied to attend future courses in child protection and behaviour management and a staff member is employed to cover the lunch break period to help maintain correct staff ratios at all times. Written information on babies care, feed and sleep patterns is now shared with parents on a daily basis. A risk assessment procedure is now used with each room and a record of visitors attendance is maintained.

What is being done well?

- The activities provided for the pre-school children, are aimed at encouraging their developmental progress. Children are supported well in use of the play provision, and in their awareness of number and language recognition. There is a wide range of suitable toys and equipment. These are well organised into labelled toy boxes, and are bright, and inviting for children.
- The health and hygiene procedures used help in preventing the spread of infection. Children are encouraged in washing their hands regularly, tables are cleaned after each play activity and nappies are disposed of hygienically.
- Documentation is well organised and maintained with regard given to confidentiality. This is stored in a separate office, and children's records and required paperwork, are reviewed and updated.

What needs to be improved?

- the activities and accessibility of play resources to allow children, under three years, more freedom of choice and the opportunity to participate in a variety of suitable play experiences, both in and outdoors, with consideration given

to provision available to reflect diversity;

- the care provided to children under three years, giving consideration to the organisation of the space available, staff deployment and interaction with children, and grouping of this age range;
- the arrangements for younger children to rest and sleep, allowing access at all times to suitable provision;
- the safety of staff and children when using the back fire exit route, and the storage of sharp and toxic materials.

Outcome of the inspection

Satisfactory

CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

All registered persons must comply with all conditions of registration included on his/her certificate of registration.

As a result of this inspection conditions of registration have been imposed / varied / removed and a new certificate of registration will be issued.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NEXT?

The Registered Person should have regard to the following recommendations by the time of the next inspection

Std	Recommendation
2	review organisation of space, staff deployment and resources to allow children under three years, more choice and access to a greater variety of play experiences, both in and outdoors, with consideration given to the provision available to reflect diversity.
3	ensure staff support and interaction, effectively encourages developmental progress with younger children, and that suitable rest and sleep provision is available to meet their needs.
6	ensure clear visibility of access in use of all fire exit routes, and make all sharp and toxic items inaccessible to children.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

STANDARD 1 - SUITABLE PERSON

Adults providing day care, looking after children or having unsupervised access to them are suitable to do so.

STANDARD 2 - ORGANISATION

The registered person meets required adult: child ratios, ensures that training and qualifications requirements are met and organises space and resources to meet the children's needs effectively.

STANDARD 3 - CARE, LEARNING AND PLAY

The registered person meets children's individual needs and promotes their welfare. They plan and provide activities and play opportunities to develop children's emotional, physical, social and intellectual capabilities.

STANDARD 4 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The premises are safe, secure and suitable for their purpose. They provide adequate space in an appropriate location, are welcoming to children and offer access to the necessary facilities for a range of activities which promote their development.

STANDARD 5 - EQUIPMENT

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

STANDARD 6 - SAFETY

The registered person takes positive steps to promote safety within the setting and on outings and ensures proper precautions are taken to prevent accidents.

STANDARD 7 - HEALTH

The registered person promotes the good health of children and takes positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and appropriate measures when they are ill.

STANDARD 8 - FOOD AND DRINK

Children are provided with regular drinks and food in adequate quantities for their needs. Food and drink is properly prepared, nutritious and complies with dietary and religious requirements.

STANDARD 9 - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The registered person and staff actively promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice for all children.

STANDARD 10 - SPECIAL NEEDS (INCLUDING SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES)

The registered person is aware that some children may have special needs and is

proactive in ensuring that appropriate action can be taken when such a child is identified or admitted to the provision. Steps are taken to promote the welfare and development of the child within the setting in partnership with the parents and other relevant parties.

STANDARD 11 - BEHAVIOUR

Adults caring for children in the provision are able to manage a wide range of children's behaviour in a way which promotes their welfare and development.

STANDARD 12 - WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

The registered person and staff work in partnership with parents and to meet the needs of the children, both individually and as a group. Information is shared.

STANDARD 13 - CHILD PROTECTION

The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedures into practice.

STANDARD 14 - DOCUMENTATION

Records, policies and procedures which are required for the efficient and safe management of the provision, or to promote the welfare, care and learning of children are maintained. Records about individual children are shared with the child's parent.